SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
BAT MAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
12¢
FEB.
NO. 169
SO LONG, FRIENDS! I'M OFF ON A JOY-RIDE TO FEATHER MY CRIME-NEST WITH THIS JEWELED METEORITE!
THE PENGUIN -- THAT POMPOUS, WADDLING MASTER OF FOWL PLAY -- IS BACK AGAIN, AS HE TRAPS BATMAN AND ROBIN INTO BECOMING HIS UNWITTING...
"PARTNERS IN PLUNDER!"

SUPERBOY says: "Don't Give FIRE A Place to Start!"

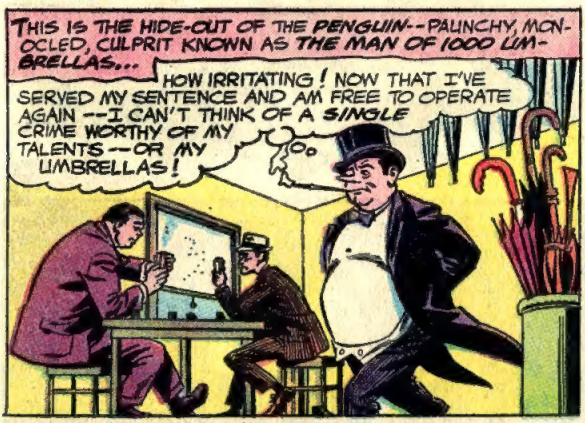
GREAT SCOTT! SMOKE--FROM THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE SMALLVILLE TEEN-AGE CLUB!
SMALLVILLE TEEN-AGE CLUB
GOSH, SUPERBOY! WE WERE JUST GOING TO HAVE A MEETING TO PLAN A COMMUNITY PROJECT... WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
YOU MUST HAVE LEFT THOSE OILY RAGS IN THE CLOSET AFTER PAINTING THE PLACE LAST MONTH--AND SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION STARTED A FIRE!
YOU SHOULD HAVE THROWN THOSE RAGS AWAY--OR PUT THEM IN A COVERED METAL CONTAINER!
YOU'RE RIGHT, SUPERBOY! IT SAYS SO RIGHT HERE ON THIS LIST I GOT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT!
SMALLVILLE
DON'T GIVE MATCHES TO CHILDREN
DON'T OVERLOAD ELECTRIC OUTLETS
DON'T USE FRAYED ELECTRIC CORDS
REMOVE ALL "JUNK" FROM CLOSETS
CHECK FIRE WARNINGS ON LABELS
WATCH ALL OUTDOOR FIRES CAREFULLY
PUT OILY RAGS IN COVERED METAL CONTAINERS
DON'T GIVE FIRE A PLACE TO START!
SAY, WHAT ABOUT THIS FOR OUR PROJECT--FIRE PREVENTION! WE CAN MAKE UP LITTLE SKITS AND LET THE WHOLE TOWN GET HEP TO THE RULES!
SWELL! LET'S GET STARTED!
YOU, TOO, CAN HELP PREVENT FIRES BY TELLING YOUR PARENTS AND FRIENDS TO OBEY THE RULES--AND BY OBEYING THEM YOURSELVES!

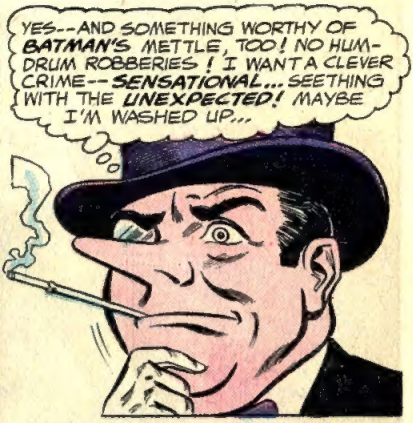
PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY, COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U. S.
Copyright 1964 by National Periodical Publications, Inc.

HE'S BACK AGAIN--THAT POMPOUS, STRUTTING, WADDLING LITTLE CROOK,,,THE PENGUIN--THE MAN OF 1000 UMBRELLAS! ONE WARNING--DON'T TRY TO OUTGUESS HIM AS HE TRIES TO FEATHER HIS CRIME-NEST AT THE EXPENSE OF BATMAN AND ROBIN, WHO ARE GOADED INTO BECOMING--SURPRISINGLY AND MYSTERIOUSLY--THE PENGUIN'S...
BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
PARTNERS IN PLUNDER!
HA! HA!
HERE COME THE PENGUIN AND HIS CROOKED FLOCK, ROBIN! LET'S NAB THEM--eh? I'M BEING CARRIED THROUGH THE AIR!
SO AM I! IT'S LIKE A GIANT HAND PULLING US--RIGHT OVER THE ROOF!
BOB KANE

"This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition, nor affixed to, nor as part of any advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever."

BATMAN, No. 169, Feb., 1965. Published monthly, with the exception of Jan., April, July and Oct. by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd & Dickey Sts., SPARTA, ILL. Editorial, Executive offices and Subscriptions, 575 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK 22, N.Y. Julius Schwartz, Editor. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT SPARTA, ILL. under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U.S., 95c including postage. Foreign, $1.90 in American funds. Canada, $1.15 in American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 205 East 42nd St., New York 17, N.Y.
Copyright 1964 by National Periodical Publications, Inc. All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. Except for those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious, and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred.
Printed in U.S.A.

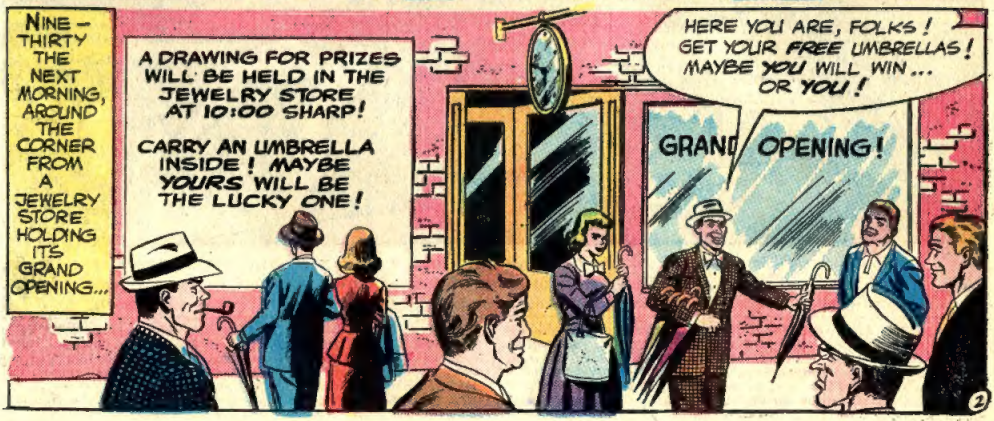

THIS IS THE HIDE-OUT OF THE PENGUIN--PALINCHY, MONOCLED, CULPRIT KNOWN AS THE MAN OF 1000 UMBRELLAS...
HOW IRRITATING! NOW THAT I'VE SERVED MY SENTENCE AND AM FREE TO OPERATE AGAIN --I CAN'T THINK OF A SINGLE CRIME WORTHY OF MY TALENTS --OR MY UMBRELLAS!


YES--AND SOMETHING WORTHY OF BATMAN'S METTLE, TOO! NO HUM-DRUM ROBBERIES! I WANT A CLEVER CRIME--SENSATIONAL... SEETHING WITH THE UNEXPECTED! MAYBE I'M WASHED UP...

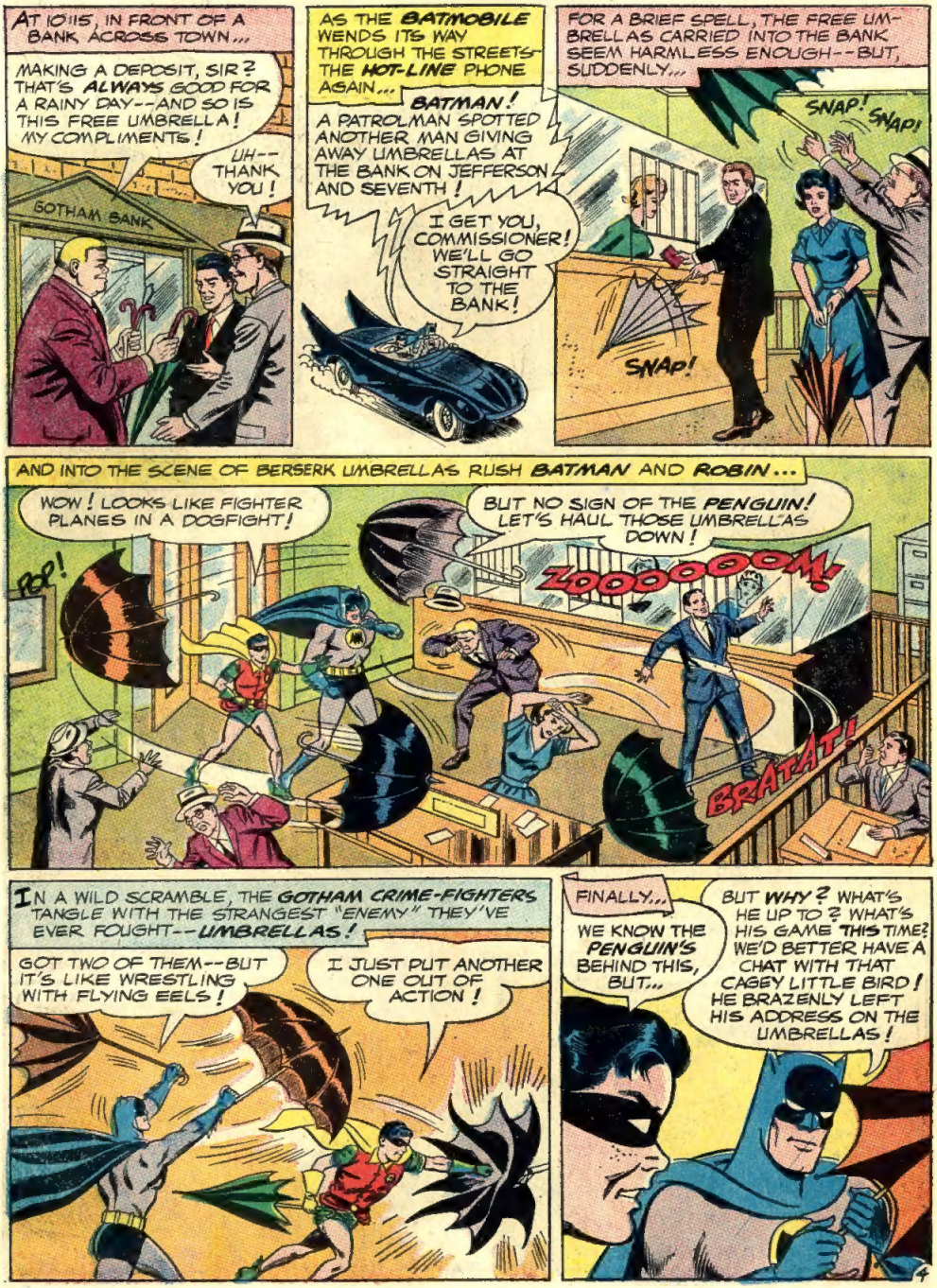
AH... WHAT A BIRD-BRAIN I'VE BEEN! NO WONDER MY MIND'S A BARREN WILDERNESS! I NEED AN UMBRELLA FOR INSPIRATION!

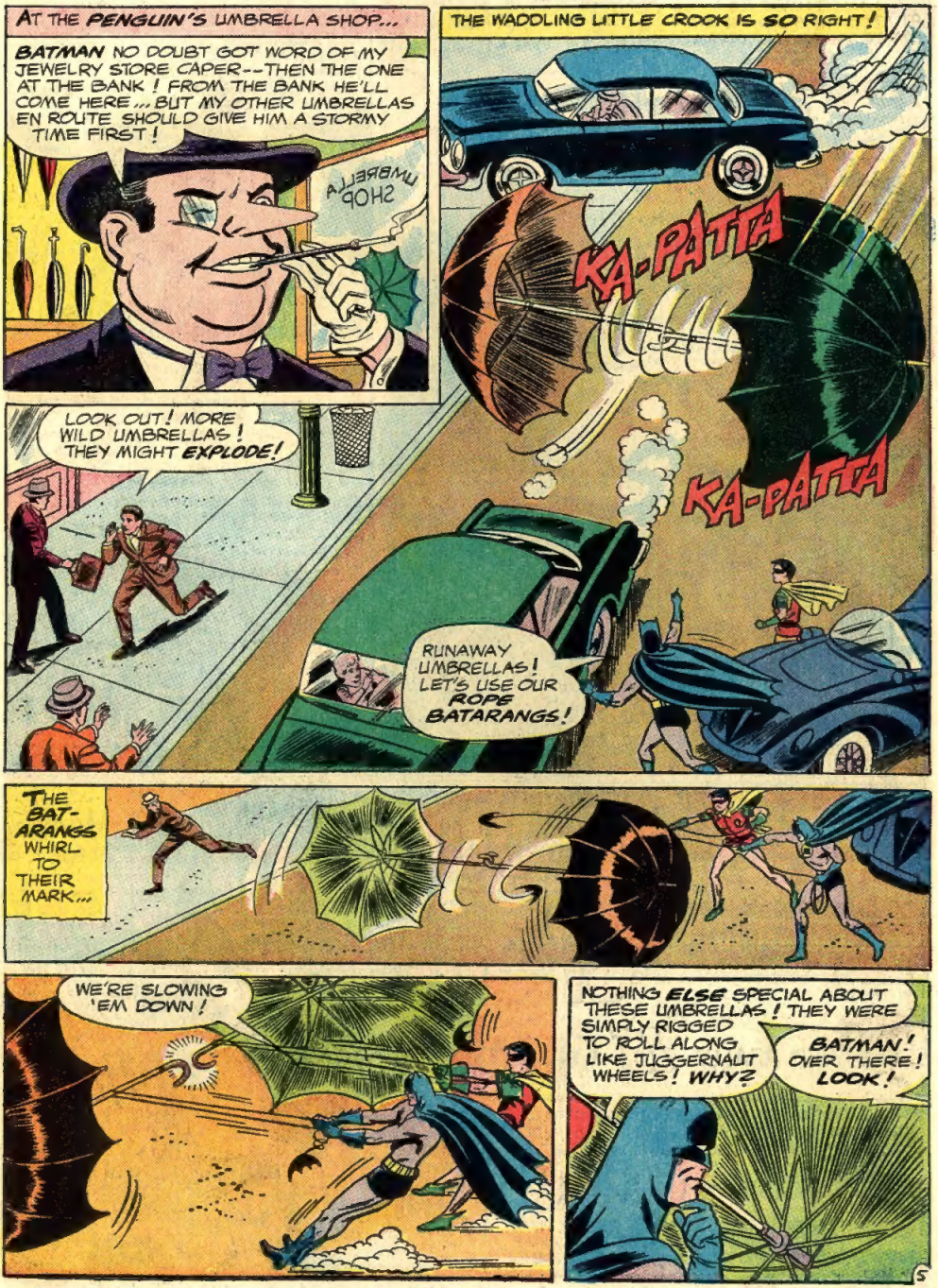
ALREADY THOUGHTS WING IN... AND I'VE GOT IT--THE SCHEME OF THE CENTURY! BATMAN HIMSELF WILL NOT ONLY SELECT MY CRIME -- BUT WILL BLUEPRINT ITS OPERATION FOR ME!

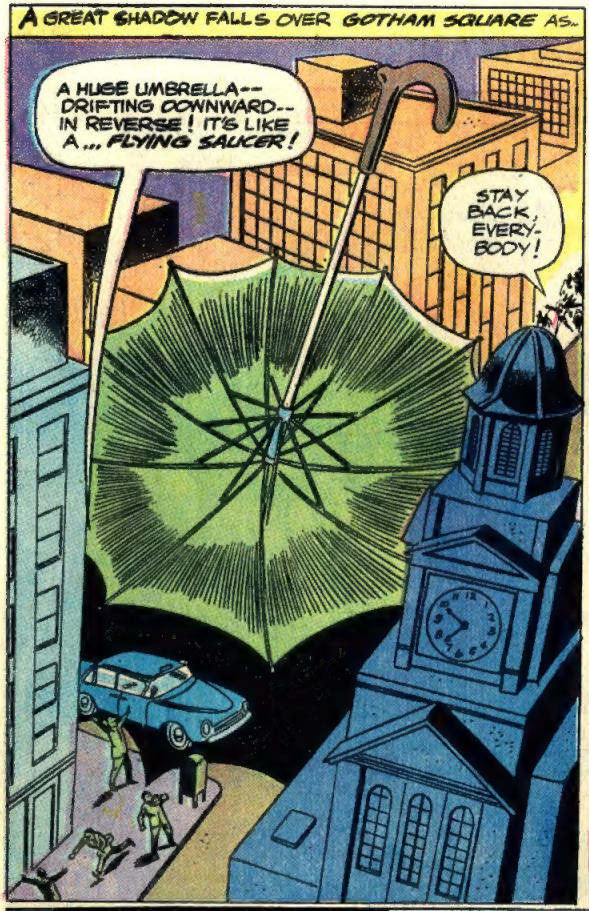
I'LL LAUNCH A BIZARRE, SENSELESS UMBRELLA BARRAGE ON GOTHAM CITY--"SENSELESS" TO ALL BUT BATMAN, WHOSE KEEN MIND WILL PIECE TOGETHER THE CLUES TO MY "CRIME"! TOMORROW WILL BE U-DAY--U- FOR UMBRELLA! HA! HA!


NINE-THIRTY THE NEXT MORNING, AROUND THE CORNER FROM A JEWELRY STORE HOLDING ITS GRAND OPENING...
A DRAWING FOR PRIZES WILL BE HELD IN THE JEWELRY STORE AT 10:00 SHARP!
CARRY AN UMBRELLA INSIDE! MAYBE YOURS WILL BE THE LUCKY ONE!
HERE YOU ARE, FOLKS! GET YOUR FREE UMBRELLAS! MAYBE YOU WILL WIN... OR YOU!
GRAND OPENING!

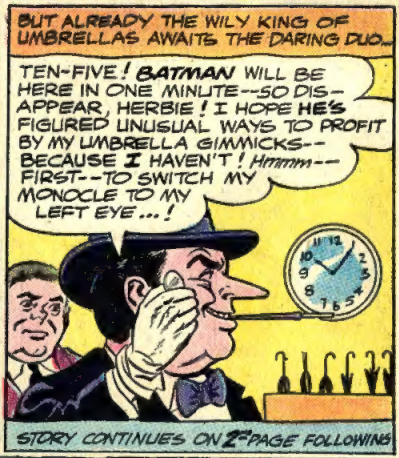
SHORTLY, INSIDE THE STORE...
WONDER WHAT EVERYBODY'S DOING WITH AN UMBRELLA ON A NICE DAY LIKE THIS... WEATHER REPORT DIDN'T MENTION RAIN...
AND AT TEN SHARP...
HEY! MY UMBRELLA OPENED BY ITSELF!
SO DID MINE! WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
SNAP!
SNAP!
SNAP!
CRACKLE!!
HELP! THESE UMBRELLAS ARE ACTING UP... SHOOTING OUT SMOKE, LIGHTNING--!
SALE
CALL THE POLICE!
THE POLICE ARRIVE--ON THE DOUBLE...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED! EVERYBODY CAME IN WITH UMBRELLAS--THEN THAT WILD ACTION STARTED! NOPE--NOBODY TRIED TO ROB US...
SOON, COMMISSIONER GORDON IS ON THE HOT-LINE WITH BATMAN...
BETTER HOP OVER TO HEADQUARTERS, BATMAN! I THINK THE PENGUIN'S UP TO SOME NEW UMBRELLA TRICKS!
WE'LL BE RIGHT THERE, COMMISSIONER.


AT 10:15, IN FRONT OF A BANK ACROSS TOWN...
MAKING A DEPOSIT, SIR? THAT'S ALWAYS GOOD FOR A RAINY DAY--AND SO IS THIS FREE UMBRELLA! MY COMPLIMENTS!
UH--THANK YOU!
GOTHAM BANK
AS THE BATMOBILE WENDS ITS WAY THROUGH THE STREETS THE HOT-LINE PHONE AGAIN...
BATMAN!
A PATROLMAN SPOTTED ANOTHER MAN GIVING AWAY UMBRELLAS AT THE BANK ON JEFFERSON AND SEVENTH!
I GET YOU, COMMISSIONER! WE'LL GO STRAIGHT TO THE BANK!
FOR A BRIEF SPELL, THE FREE UMBRELLAS CARRIED INTO THE BANK SEEM HARMLESS ENOUGH--BUT, SUDDENLY...
SNAP! SNAP!
SNAP!
AND INTO THE SCENE OF BERSERK UMBRELLAS RUSH BATMAN AND ROBIN...
WOW! LOOKS LIKE FIGHTER PLANES IN A DOGFIGHT!
BUT NO SIGN OF THE PENGUIN! LET'S HAUL THOSE UMBRELLAS DOWN!
POP!
ZOOOOOOM!
BRATAT!
IN A WILD SCRAMBLE, THE GOTHAM CRIME-FIGHTERS TANGLE WITH THE STRANGEST "ENEMY" THEY'VE EVER FOUGHT--UMBRELLAS!
GOT TWO OF THEM--BUT IT'S LIKE WRESTLING WITH FLYING EELS!
I JUST PUT ANOTHER ONE OUT OF ACTION!
FINALLY...
WE KNOW THE PENGUIN'S BEHIND THIS, BUT...
BUT WHY? WHAT'S HE UP TO? WHAT'S HIS GAME THIS TIME? WE'D BETTER HAVE A CHAT WITH THAT CAGEY LITTLE BIRD! HE BRAZENLY LEFT HIS ADDRESS ON THE UMBRELLAS!


AT THE PENGUIN'S UMBRELLA SHOP...
BATMAN NO DOUBT GOT WORD OF MY JEWELRY STORE CAPER--THEN THE ONE AT THE BANK! FROM THE BANK HE'LL COME HERE... BUT MY OTHER UMBRELLAS EN ROUTE SHOULD GIVE HIM A STORMY TIME FIRST!
UMBRELLA SHOP
THE WADDLING LITTLE CROOK IS SO RIGHT!
KA-PATTA
KA-PATTA
LOOK OUT! MORE WILD UMBRELLAS! THEY MIGHT EXPLODE!
RUNAWAY UMBRELLAS! LET'S USE OUR ROPE BATARANGS!
THE BAT-ARANGS WHIRL TO THEIR MARK...
WE'RE SLOWING 'EM DOWN!
NOTHING ELSE SPECIAL ABOUT THESE UMBRELLAS! THEY WERE SIMPLY RIGGED TO ROLL ALONG LIKE JUGGERNAUT WHEELS! WHY?
BATMAN! OVER THERE! LOOK!


A GREAT SHADOW FALLS OVER GOTHAM SQUARE AS..
A HUGE UMBRELLA--DRIFTING DOWNWARD--IN REVERSE! IT'S LIKE A... FLYING SAUCER!
STAY BACK, EVERYBODY!

WHEN THE MYSTERY-UMBRELLA LANDS...
NO HIDDEN GIMMICKS ON THIS ONE, EITHER! BUT WE'VE GOT ENOUGH TO SLAP THE PENGUIN BEHIND BARS... OBSTRUCTING TRAFFIC... DISTURBING THE PEACE--AND SO FORTH!
YES... WE CAN NAIL HIM BEFORE HE PULLS HIS BIG PAY-OFF... WHATEVER IT IS!


BUT ALREADY THE WILY KING OF UMBRELLAS AWAITS THE DARING DUO..
TEN-FIVE! BATMAN WILL BE HERE IN ONE MINUTE--SO DISAPPEAR, HERBIE! I HOPE HE'S FIGURED UNUSUAL WAYS TO PROFIT BY MY UMBRELLA GIMMICKS--BECAUSE I HAVEN'T! Hmmm--FIRST--TO SWITCH MY MONOCLE TO MY LEFT EYE...!

STORY CONTINUES ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

WHOSE FACE DOES THE ENEMY SEE IN HIS SMOKING SIGHTS?... GI JOE!

WHOSE FACE DOES THE ENEMY SEE IN HIS WILDEST NIGHTMARES?.. GI JOE!

BUT--WHO REALLY IS GI JOE?

THE SOLDIER WHO WALKS THROUGH EXPLODING STEEL? THE FROGMAN WHO PLAYS TAG WITH A TORPEDO? THE MARINE WHO CAN ONLY SPELL--ATTACK?

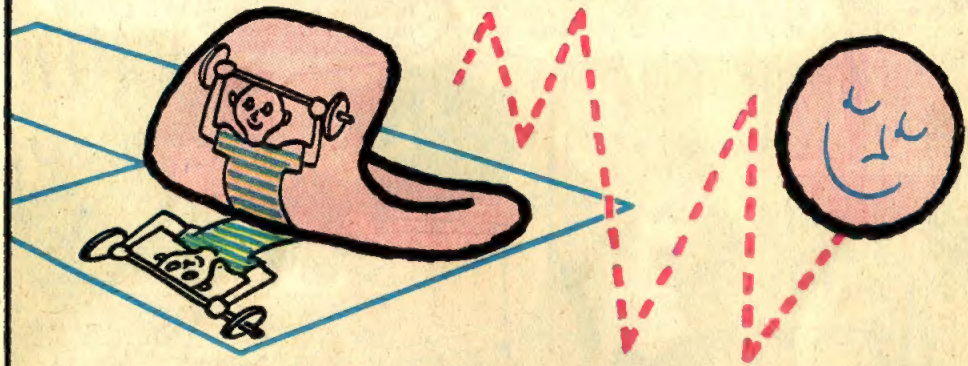
SHOWCASE presents GI JOE!

IN THE MOST SENSATIONAL PRIZE CONTEST SINCE THE FIRST ARROW WAS FIRED--IN WHICH YOU-YOU-YOU CAN JOIN THE UNIQUE BATTLE JURY IN DECIDING THE FATE OF G.I. JOE!

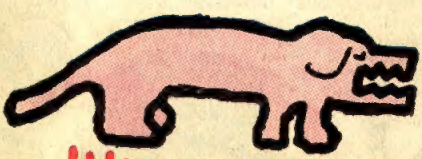
GET YOUR COPY NOW!

Silly® Putty IS ALWAYS FUN!

...but especially when it's wet and blustery!



Silly® Putty picks up comics... bounces...
...and shapes into funny looking things...



like a puppy..

..or a guppy..

..a goose..

..or even a moose!

You'll probably find SILLY PUTTY in your Christmas stocking

. . . but if not and your favorite store has run out of stock

send one dollar with this coupon and we'll rush one to you POSTPAID!

SILLY PUTTY NO C.O.D.'s
P.O. Box 741
New Haven, Conn.

I enclose $1.00. Please rush my SILLY PUTTY TO ME POSTPAID!

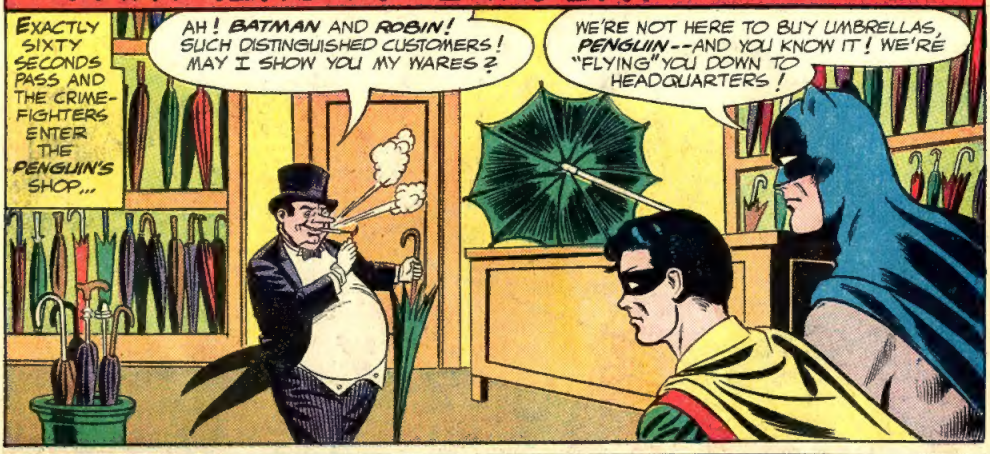
PRINT NAME_____

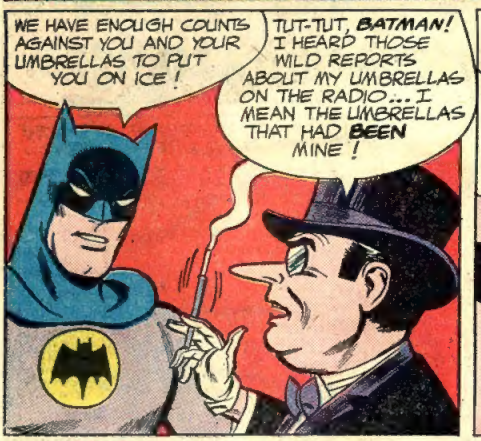
ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____

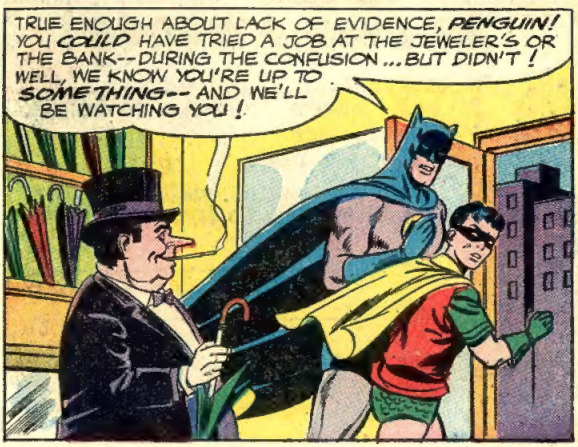
Canadian and foreign orders: send $1.50 International Postal Money Order with order.

PARTNERS IN PLUNDER! — PART 2


EXACTLY SIXTY SECONDS PASS AND THE CRIME-FIGHTERS ENTER THE PENGUIN'S SHOP...
AH! BATMAN AND ROBIN! SUCH DISTINGUISHED CUSTOMERS! MAY I SHOW YOU MY WARES?
WE'RE NOT HERE TO BUY UMBRELLAS, PENGUIN--AND YOU KNOW IT! WE'RE "FLYING" YOU DOWN TO HEADQUARTERS!


WE HAVE ENOUGH COUNTS AGAINST YOU AND YOUR UMBRELLAS TO PUT YOU ON ICE!
TUT-TUT, BATMAN! I HEARD THOSE WILD REPORTS ABOUT MY UMBRELLAS ON THE RADIO... I MEAN THE UMBRELLAS THAT HAD BEEN MINE!

YOU SEE, I MERELY SELL UMBRELLAS! WHAT HAPPENS TO THEM AFTER THEY LEAVE HERE IS NOT MY CONCERN, IN SHORT, YOU HAVEN'T A SCRAP OF EVIDENCE AGAINST ME!
AH! THEY'RE STARING AT MY WRONG-EYE MONOCLE! I KNEW IT WOULD GET THEM!


TRUE ENOUGH ABOUT LACK OF EVIDENCE, PENGUIN! YOU COULD HAVE TRIED A JOB AT THE JEWELER'S OR THE BANK--DURING THE CONFUSION... BUT DIDN'T! WELL, WE KNOW YOU'RE UP TO SOMETHING--AND WE'LL BE WATCHING YOU!

WHEN ONCE AGAIN IN THE BATMOBILE...
I'M CONVINCED THE PENGUIN'S BEHIND ALL THIS MYSTERY, AND THINGS HAVE GOT TO COME TO A HEAD, SOONER OR LATER!
AND WHAT ABOUT HIS MONOCLE? HE ALWAYS WORE IT IN HIS RIGHT EYE--BUT NOW IT'S IN HIS LEFT!

YES--THAT WAS CURIOUS! I WONDER IF THE MONOCLE HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH THIS PUZZLER? IT'S SUCH A WHACKY CASE I CAN BELIEVE ANYTHING WILL HAPPEN!
LET'S JUST HOPE WE'RE ON HAND WHEN IT DOES!
MEANWHILE...
TELL ME, BOSS--WHY DID YOU MOVE YOUR MONOCLE TO THE OTHER EYE?
JUST STRATEGY, HERBIE! IT'S A LITTLE SOMETHING ELSE THAT'LL KEEP BATMAN GUESSING--KEEP HIM WORRIED! THAT'S THE ONLY REASON I DID IT! NOW--
I THINK TONIGHT WILL BE THE BIG NIGHT! SUMMON THE REST OF THE BOYS HERE AT ONCE! WE MUST WORK FAST--ON THE BIGGEST PLAN OF MY LIFE--AND THE BIGGEST UPSET BATMAN EVER GOT!
LATE THAT NIGHT, FROM THE PROWLING BATMOBILE, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS SEE A STRANGE AND FASCINATING GLOW ABOVE GOTHAM CITY...
THAT LOOKS LIKE THE AURORA BOREALIS!
STRANGE--IT USUALLY APPEARS FAR NORTH OF HERE--IT'S HARDLY EVER SEEN IN GOTHAM CITY!
SUDDENLY, THE BRILLIANT LIGHTS FADE, AND...
BATMAN--TWO UMBRELLAS! THEY CAUSED THE MULTI-COLORED LIGHTS!
YES--NOW THE LIGHTS ARE GONE, AND THEY'RE COMING DOWN! ONE IS A "PARACHUTE" UMBRELLA--AND THE ONE SUSPENDED FROM IT HAS A SPARKLER ON IT! WHAT'S UP?
RACING TO WHERE THE STRANGE PAIR OF UMBRELLAS LANDED...
I DON'T SEE ANY OBVIOUS GIMMICKS IN THE UMBRELLAS--BUT LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK! THE PENGUIN DOESN'T MAKE ANYTHING OBVIOUS!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

COMING YOUR WAY IN '65-

© 1964 BY NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC.

AURORA PLASTICS CORP.
Scale model hobby kits.

BEN COOPER, Inc.
Costumes & masks.

COLORFORMS
Boxed activity sets.

HASSENFELD
Board games, coloring sets, paint sets.

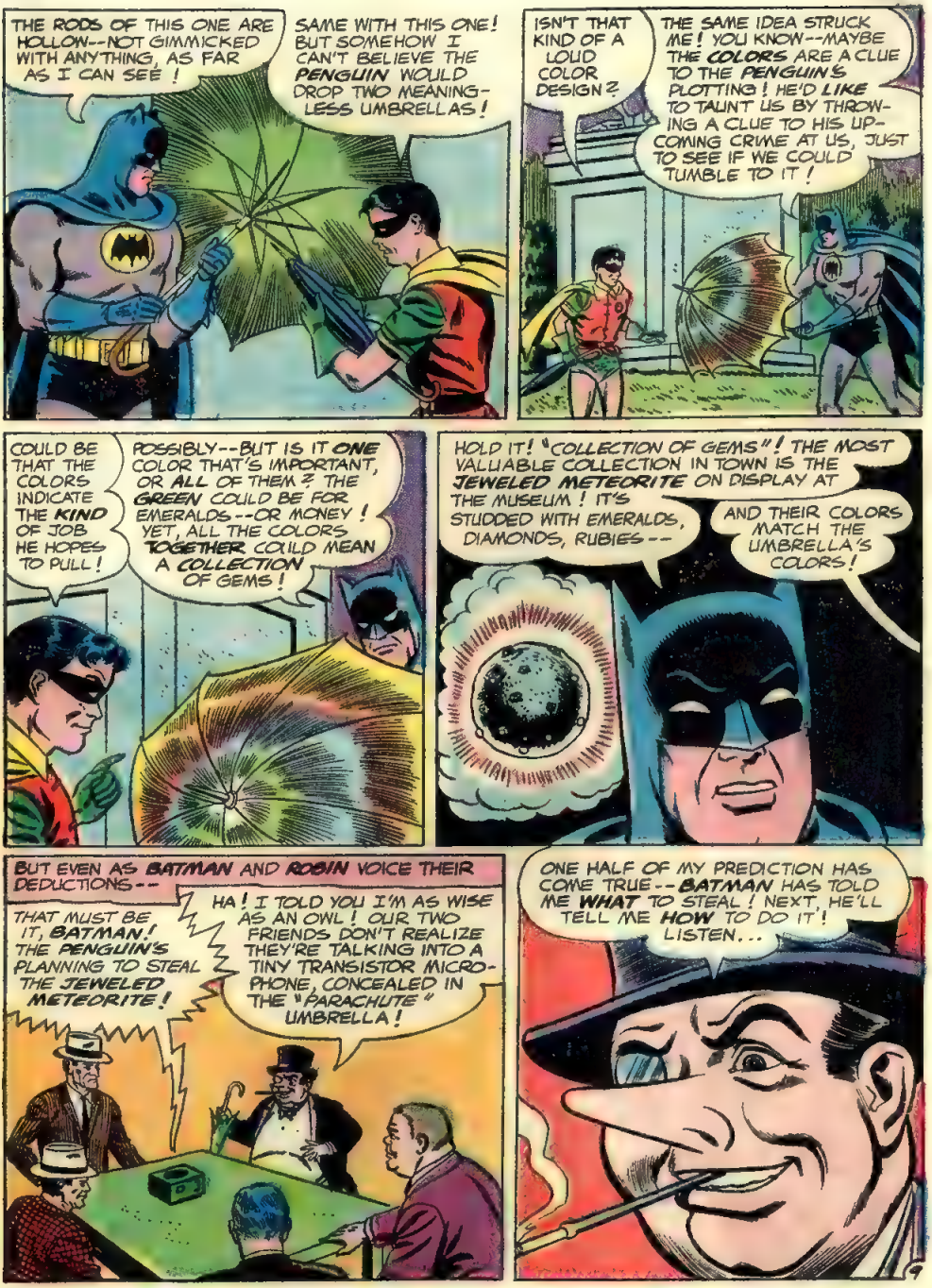
KENNER PRODUCTS
Color slide film strips.

PRESSMAN TOY
Kites.

ROALEX COMPANY
Plastic puzzles.

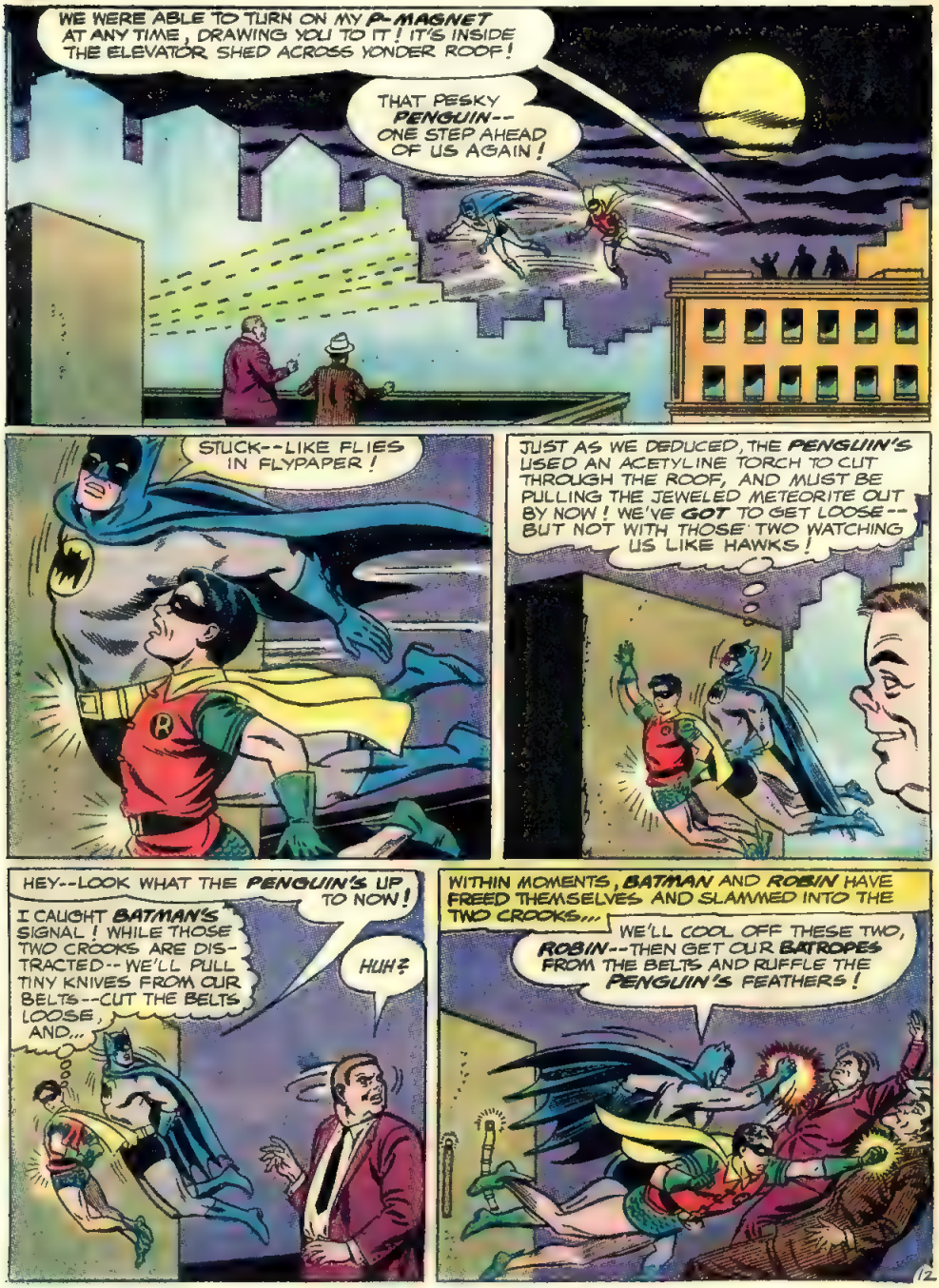
WHITMAN PUBL. CO.
Coloring books, jigsaw puzzles.

WATCH FOR
COLGATE PALMOLIVE Soaky.
&
NOW IN FOOD STORES
M. POLANER & SON
Jams, Jellies & preserves

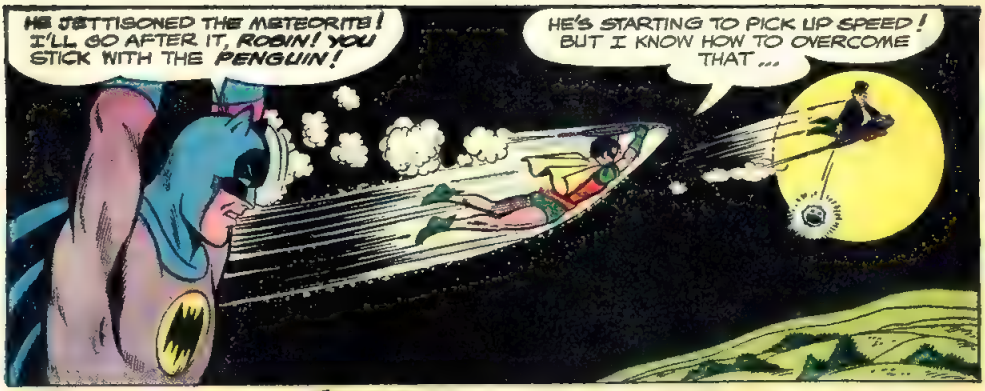

THE RODS OF THIS ONE ARE HOLLOW--NOT GIMMICKED WITH ANYTHING, AS FAR AS I CAN SEE!
SAME WITH THIS ONE! BUT SOMEHOW I CAN'T BELIEVE THE PENGUIN WOULD DROP TWO MEANINGLESS UMBRELLAS!
ISN'T THAT KIND OF A LOUD COLOR DESIGN?
THE SAME IDEA STRUCK ME! YOU KNOW--MAYBE THE COLORS ARE A CLUE TO THE PENGUIN'S PLOTTING! HE'D LIKE TO TAUNT US BY THROWING A CLUE TO HIS UPCOMING CRIME AT US, JUST TO SEE IF WE COULD TUMBLE TO IT!
COULD BE THAT THE COLORS INDICATE THE KIND OF JOB HE HOPES TO PULL!
POSSIBLY--BUT IS IT ONE COLOR THAT'S IMPORTANT, OR ALL OF THEM? THE GREEN COULD BE FOR EMERALDS--OR MONEY! YET, ALL THE COLORS TOGETHER COULD MEAN A COLLECTION OF GEMS!
HOLD IT! "COLLECTION OF GEMS"! THE MOST VALUABLE COLLECTION IN TOWN IS THE JEWELED METEORITE ON DISPLAY AT THE MUSEUM! IT'S STUDDED WITH EMERALDS, DIAMONDS, RUBIES--
AND THEIR COLORS MATCH THE UMBRELLA'S COLORS!
BUT EVEN AS BATMAN AND ROBIN VOICE THEIR DEDUCTIONS--
THAT MUST BE IT, BATMAN! THE PENGUIN'S PLANNING TO STEAL THE JEWELED METEORITE!
HA! I TOLD YOU I'M AS WISE AS AN OWL! OUR TWO FRIENDS DON'T REALIZE THEY'RE TALKING INTO A TINY TRANSISTOR MICROPHONE, CONCEALED IN THE "PARACHUTE" UMBRELLA!
ONE HALF OF MY PREDICTION HAS COME TRUE--BATMAN HAS TOLD ME WHAT TO STEAL! NEXT, HE'LL TELL ME HOW TO DO IT! LISTEN...

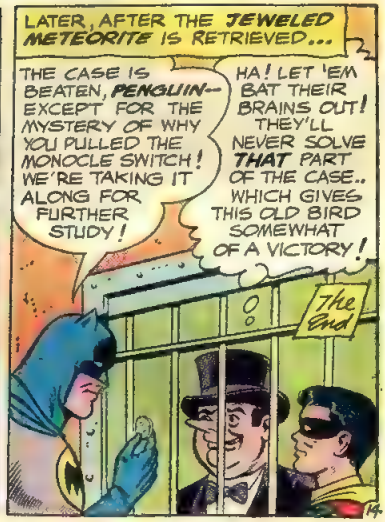
BUT THE PENGUIN WILL HAVE HIS TROUBLES, BATMAN! THE METEORITE IS ON DISPLAY BEHIND A BREAKPROOF WINDOW--
AND GUARDS ARE CONSTANTLY ON DUTY IN THE ROOMS FLANKING THE DISPLAY ROOM, AS WELL AS IN THE CORRIDORS! BUT--THERE'S ONE WEAK SPOT...
...THE ROOF! THE PENGUIN COULD LAND ON THE ROOF BY PARACHUTE-UMBRELLA, AND THEN...
"AFTER LANDING, HIS GANG COULD CUT THROUGH THE ROOM WITH AN ACETYLINE TORCH..."
"AND BY USING A TRICK UMBRELLA WITH AN EXTENSION CANE, HE COULD REACH FAR DOWN, HOOK THE JEWELED METEORITE..."
--AND BE OFF WITH HIS PRIZE BEFORE THE GUARDS KNEW WHAT HAPPENED!
SEE! BATMAN NOT ONLY SELECTED MY CRIME, BUT BLUE-PRINTED IT FOR ME! I'LL USE HIS PLAN--BUT WITH MY OWN SPECIAL TOUCH!
LET'S GO! THE PENGUIN WILL STRIKE...RIGHT BEFORE BATMAN'S EYES, WHERE HE'LL BE WAITING ON THE ROOF! DON'T FORGET THE PENGUIN-MAGNET, HERBIE!
GOT IT, BOSS!

HERBIE, YOU AND CHARLIE SET UP THE P-MAGNET IN THE ELEVATOR SHED ON THE ROOF ACROSS FROM THE MUSEUM! YOU OTHER TWO COME WITH ME ... WE'RE GOING TO "DROP IN" ON BATMAN AND ROBIN!
AN HOUR PASSES, AND THEN ... ON THE MUSEUM ROOF...
NICE EVENING, BATMAN!
IT WON'T TURN OUT THAT WAY FOR YOU, PENGUIN! COME ON DOWN, YOU STRUTTING LITTLE FOWL--AND GET CAGED!
NAB THE PENGUIN, ROBIN-- I'LL GIVE THE OTHER TWO A ROUGH LANDING!
BUT--AS THE CRIME-FIGHTERS CHARGE FORWARD...
I C-CAN'T STOP! IT'S LIKE A G-GIANT HAND PULLING ME!
HA, HA!
SAME WITH ME! I'M STRAINING TO STOP-- BUT CAN'T!
WE'RE FLYING! HOW'S IT POSSIBLE--?!
YOUR "CHARM" IS MAGNETIC, BATMAN--HA, HA! YOUR BELT-BUCKLES WERE SUBJECTED TO A POWERFUL AND SPECIAL MAGNETIC FORCE WHEN YOU PICKED UP MY LAST TWO UMBRELLAS...


WE WERE ABLE TO TURN ON MY P-MAGNET AT ANY TIME, DRAWING YOU TO IT! IT'S INSIDE THE ELEVATOR SHED ACROSS YONDER ROOF!
THAT PESKY PENGUIN-- ONE STEP AHEAD OF US AGAIN!
STUCK--LIKE FLIES IN FLYPAPER!
JUST AS WE DEDUCED, THE PENGUIN'S USED AN ACETYLINE TORCH TO CUT THROUGH THE ROOF, AND MUST BE PULLING THE JEWELED METEORITE OUT BY NOW! WE'VE GOT TO GET LOOSE-- BUT NOT WITH THOSE TWO WATCHING US LIKE HAWKS!
HEY--LOOK WHAT THE PENGUIN'S UP TO NOW!
I CAUGHT BATMAN'S SIGNAL! WHILE THOSE TWO CROOKS ARE DISTRACTED--WE'LL PULL TINY KNIVES FROM OUR BELTS--CUT THE BELTS LOOSE, AND...
HUH?
WITHIN MOMENTS, BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE FREED THEMSELVES AND SLAMMED INTO THE TWO CROOKS...
WE'LL COOL OFF THESE TWO, ROBIN--THEN GET OUR BATROPES FROM THE BELTS AND RUFFLE THE PENGUIN'S FEATHERS!

THEN, AS THEY SWING TOWARD THE MUSEUM ROOF...
THE PENGUIN'S GOT THE METEORITE--AND IS ESCAPING WITH A JET-UMBRELLA!
GO AHEAD, BOSS--WE'LL HOLD OFF BATMAN AN' THE KID!
BUT TO THE ASTONISHMENT OF THE CROOKS...
THIS RING-AROUND-THE ROSY TRICK SHOULD KEEP 'EM IN KNOTS FOR AWHILE, eh?
YES--YOU MIGHT SAY THEY'D LIKE TO GO SOMEWHERE--BUT THEY'RE ALL "TIED UP"!
WITH THE LAST OF THE CROOKS TRUSSED UP...
IT SEEMS THERE'S NO WAY FOR US TO GO AFTER THE PENGUIN--TILL YOU WONDER HOW THE TWO CROOKS WITH HIM WERE GOING TO GET AWAY...
OF COURSE! THEIR UMBRELLAS MUST ALSO BE JET-EQUIPPED!
AND THEN BEGINS AN ASTONISHING CHASE THROUGH NIGHT SKIES...
FROM NOW ON IT'S A QUESTION OF WHICH JET-UMBRELLA IS THE FASTEST--THE PENGUIN'S... OR ONE OF OURS!
DRAT IT! ROBIN'S PULLED AHEAD OF BATMAN--AND IS GAINING ON ME! IT'S A QUESTION OF WEIGHT! THE METEORITE IS SLOWING ME DOWN! ESCAPE IS THE MAIN ISSUE, SO...


HE JETTISONED THE METEORITE! I'LL GO AFTER IT, ROBIN! YOU STICK WITH THE PENGUIN!
HE'S STARTING TO PICK UP SPEED! BUT I KNOW HOW TO OVERCOME THAT...


LATER, AFTER THE JEWELED METEORITE IS RETRIEVED...
THE CASE IS BEATEN, PENGUIN— EXCEPT FOR THE MYSTERY OF WHY YOU PULLED THE MONOCLE SWITCH! WE'RE TAKING IT ALONG FOR FURTHER STUDY!
HA! LET 'EM BAT THEIR BRAINS OUT! THEY'LL NEVER SOLVE THAT PART OF THE CASE.. WHICH GIVES THIS OLD BIRD SOMEWHAT OF A VICTORY!
The End
14

For The VERY BEST

SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS

in COMICS READING

Dear Editor: I'm writing this letter from a hospital bed, because when I saw the cover of the September *Batman* (number 166), I fainted dead away! I thought it was that beautiful!

Seriously, I really do think the Sept. issue had the most beautiful, well-done cover I have ever seen! This illo (which was done by Carmine Infantino, right?) is more terrific than any other. The background effect on the bricks added greatly to the whole thing. The shading on the walls, the way *Batman* held his right hand (or rather the way Infantino drew it!), the bubbles in the water, and the green on *Batman's* cape all added to the effect. You'd have to *show* me a better cover because I've never seen one to match this!

You're handling the "New Look" *Batman* extremely well, and I'd like to congratulate you on it. But, please, even though you may get requests from unimaginative fans who want aliens, monsters, and such rot, keep the stories the way they *are!* Detective stories, murder mysteries, and wily (but not always super) crooks are the right type of situations for *Batman.*

However, in regard to super-villains, I think ones like *Clayface, Vulture, Shark,* and the other cornballs should be dropped while your "star" villains, *Joker, Penguin,* and perhaps a return of some of your former badguys (*Two-Face,* the *original Clayface, Cavalier, Riddler,* etc.) would be good medicine for the *Cloaked Crusader.*

Also, I'd like to see more stories with *Batman* in solo action. Most of your fans (the younger ones, probably) want *Robin* in *every* story, but, heck, I think *Batman* could do better without the *Boy Wonder* always tagging along. Sure, he's saved *Batman* in many a tough spot, but the stories would be better if our hero had to do all the work himself. Thus the first yarn in the September *Batman* was much better than the second because *Robin* wasn't there to pull *Batman* out; he had to do it on his own.

One last thing: Please keep the Pat Powell-Bruce Wayne romance bit at a minimum, and don't drag it into every other story. A little bit is fine, but too much is too much! —Larry Brown, 506 Handy Dr., Bay City, Mich., 48707

(Plaudits for the September *Batman* cover should be directed at penciller Carmine Infantino and inker Joe Giella. Your plea for "star" villains has been answered with this issue's *Penguin* appearance; meanwhile, we've passed the word along to Bill Finger, who created the *Riddler* 'way back in *Detective Comics* number 140, to work out an up-dated version of this colorful villain. —*Editor*)

* * *

Dear Editor: So the "New Look" has become the "Good Look" (and to think my letter in the September *Batman* was the one that started it off)! Fine, but I think "Best Look" would be even better. Well, anyway, you've come out with another excellent *Batman* issue. The stories were very good and the art was tops.

To begin with, the cover was again excellent (that's becoming an overworked word with me). The underwater effect was very realistic.

"Two-Way Deathtrap" wasn't an unbeatable story; in fact, it is one of the "worst" ones you have come out with for *Batman* since you took over. Yet it was still very good. (What do you call that, a backhanded compliment?) There were some fine possibilities in the yarn that could be utilized in future issues. (1) the echo chamber for more eavesdropping on *Batman* and *Robin* in the *Batcave;* (2) "Big Joe" for further episodes concerning his 10 to 1 odds on *Batman* getting out of any trap. I also liked the insistence of *Batman* that *Robin* go to his school basketball game. As for the art, Bob Kane was at his best.

"A Rendezvous with Robbery" was likewise good and had plenty of action and detection which I like. *Robin's* part in the fighting was great. *Batman* should have thought of the transmitter by himself since he has pulled that trick numerous times before. The love interest wasn't particularly good this time, unfortunately. I hope you don't drag out this Pat Powell *not*-meeting Bruce Wayne bit. Again Bob Kane was great on the art. —Mike Friedrich, 17474 Ehle St., Castro Valley, Cal., 94546

(On reconsideration, perhaps we should tag our catch-phrase the "Better Look"—the dual idea being to make *Batman better* than any other comic book and to make each issue *better* than the preceding one. —*Editor*)

* * *

Dear Editor: Although having a few flaws, *Batman* number 166 was up to the high standards which have become usual for the magazine since you inaugurated the "New Look."

"Two-Way Deathtrap" was the better of the two stories, but does every other cover story's title have to begin with "Two-Way?" Anyway, the story was notable for *Batman's* clever solution to the trap, and the highly original yet believable explanation for the use of the trap. The explanation really appealed to me since in all the many trap stories I've read, the now evident fact has been established that a trap is usually an illogical way to kill a hero. The story's flaw was that Mitch or some other hood might overhear the *Dynamic Duo* calling each other by their real names and thus discover their identities by means of the echo chamber, which I have to admit was a clever idea.

The detection, art, and action in "A Rendezvous with Robbery" were all quite good, but the "romance" . . . it suffices to say that I think you're basing this series on a ridiculous gimmick. It's a shame to have Detective Pat Powell mishandled this way since she has the potential to be much more interesting than *Batman's* other romantic interests, *Batwoman* and *Vicky Vale*.

Despite these gripes, on the whole, I consider your "New Look" to have improved *Batman* and *Detective Comics*. Before the "New Look" was begun, I was considering not buying these magazines any more, but now I wait expectantly for each issue to see what surprises you and your staff have dreamed up. Speaking of dreaming things up, has Bill Finger been writing all the stories that have appeared in *Batman*? —Brian Yates, 1094 Chestnut St., Newton, Mass., 02164

(The November LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE department carried the author-credit list up to that issue. To carry on with the list, the December's "Fight that Jolted Gotham City" was authored by Eddie Herron, as was "How to Solve a Crime—in Reverse." This issue's "Partners in Plunder" and "Bad Day for Batman" were also done by Herron. And looking ahead to the next, March, issue, the cover-featured "Genius of the Getaway Gimmicks" was written by Gardner Fox, while Bill Finger did "Puzzle of the Perilous Prizes." —*Editor*)

* * *

Dear Editor: In the September issue of *Batman*, "Two-Way Deathtrap" was one of the most exciting stories I ever read.

But there was one thing that puzzles me. On page 11, you show Mitch and Beany about to escape. In his hand, Mitch holds a gun. Why didn't he shoot *Batman* when he opened the door and found *Batman* about to crash in? All Mitch had to do was aim and pull the trigger! —Steven Holtz, 1475 S. Oakhurst Dr., Los Angeles 35, Cal.

(So *all* Mitch had to do was "aim and pull the trigger"? Outside of the fact that Mitch was too stunned at *Batman's* surprise appearance to make *any* move, *Batman's* flashing fist would have struck its target before Mitch's finger could pull the trigger. —*Editor*)

* * *

Dear Editor: Hooray for Plainview! I am referring, of course, to the town that played a prominent part in "A Rendezvous with Robbery" in the September *Batman*. First we have a ship and now a comic book town named after our home town! Alas, I fear you are not referring to *our* Plainview, as our grade crossings have just been eliminated (besides, the railroad is over in Hicksville).

So, say hello to our fellow readers from Plainview, Arkansas; Plainview, California; Plainview, Nebraska; and Plainview, Texas. One of them must be it.

As a matter of curiosity, how come you chose the name Plainview for this story? —Random Scott, 94 Westbury Ave., Plainview, N.Y., 11803

(Curiously enough, the Plainview name was chosen in honor of Gaspar Saladino, the one who lettered this particular story. What's the connection? Gaspar lives in Plainview, and for all we know may be a neighbor of yours! —*Editor*)

* * *

Dear Editor: To this date, *Batman* has had five issues in *Detective* and three issues in *Batman*, with your "New Look." Many fans have had a chance to write you on your "N.L." in the daring duo, but of all the innovations—such as the hot-line and chest insignia —by far the smartest and most plausible is *Robin's* modified hair-style.

I have been reading DC comics ever since I can remember. The fact is, I have been such an avid fan that a hundred times or more I have tried to make my own *Robin* costume. (This is because *Robin is* more my age.) Well, a hundred times this idea had been abandoned because of *Robin's* ridiculous hair-do. Did *you* ever try to comb your hair back and then make each side come over your forehead like two black fangs? Well, let me tell you brother, it ain't no picnic.

Although the *Beatles* may have their fans because of their mop-tops, here is one *Robin* fan who feels the *Boy Wonder* is a much greater hero to idolize. —John Hegenberger, Jr., 1955 Sunbury Rd., Columbus, O., 43219

(We're not playing any favorites. There's room on this earth for both *Robin and Beatle* boosters. —*Editor*)

* * *

Dear Editor: I have read many of the super-hero magazines on the market, but I find it refreshing to read of a hero who doesn't come from another planet, does not possess any super-powers, and fights with his brain most of the time, not relying solely on his physical abilities.

I am a newcomer to the *Batman Comics*, and I am all for the "New Look" in both *Batman* and *Detective*. I do not think much of *Batwoman, Batgirl, Batmite, or Bathound*, and wish you could somehow remove them and feature only *Batman* and the *Boy Wonder*. The "batarang" is a neat little gadget and I would not mind seeing it more often.

As long as you keep aliens and time travel out of *Batman's* life and stick to more known fact, *Batman* should go on for years to come. Once in a while, let *Batman* get hurt, but don't overdo the kayo act. And if you have guts enough to get rid of Alfred, let's knock off *Batmite* and the other *Batty* characters I mentioned. —Duane Peterson, 3332 Piedmont Ave., Duluth, Minn.

(According to the last reports we've received, the *Bat*-characters you object to were *in Limbo*.—*Editor*)

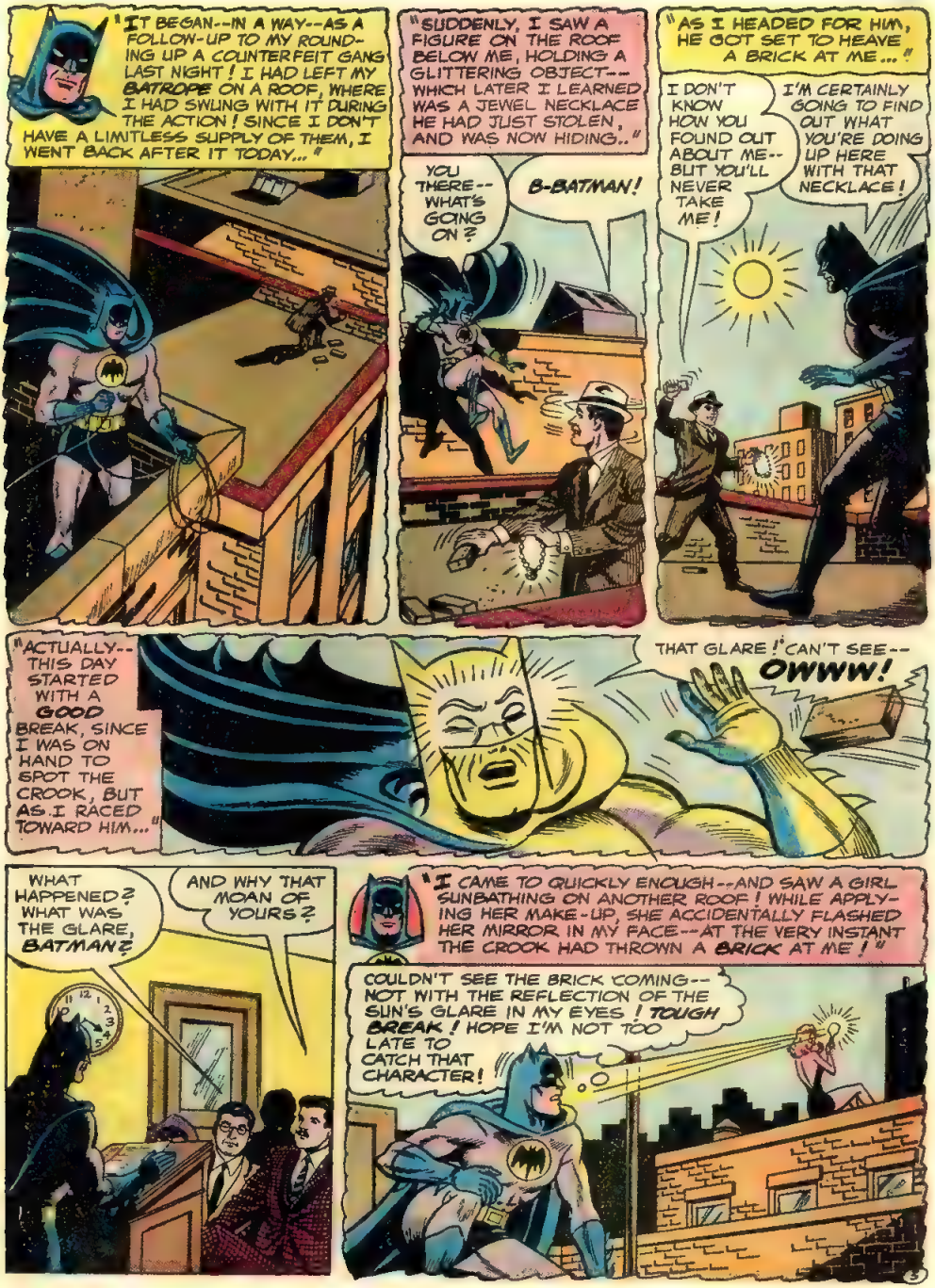
* * *

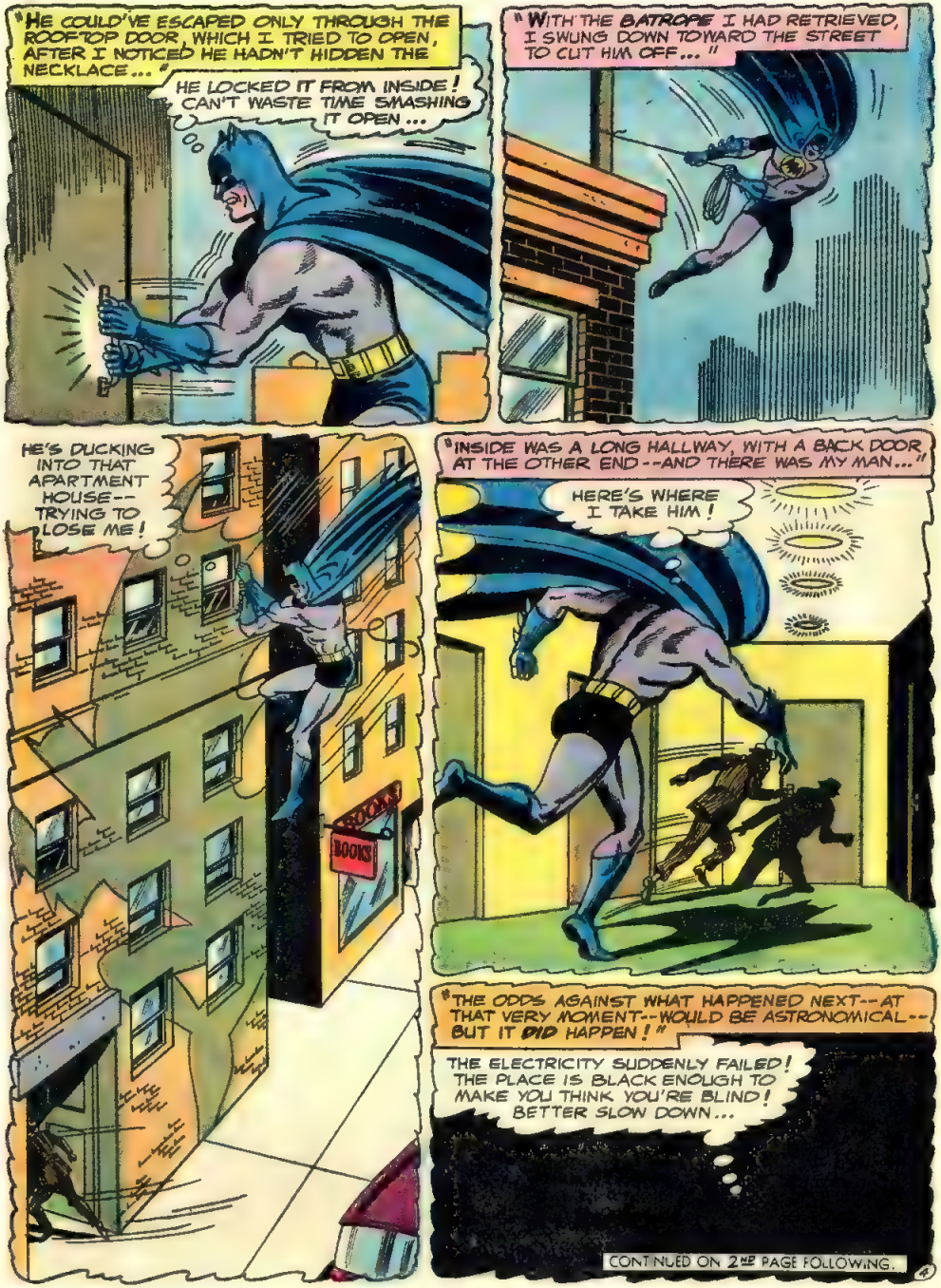
HOT TIPS FROM BATMAN'S HOT-LINE: One of the Nation's largest *Batman* fan clubs, the BAT-MANIANS, has announced that it is issuing a new club fanzine called BATMANIA. A free copy and full club particulars are available for 10c postage from B. J. White, 407 Sondra Avenue, Columbia, Missouri. We highly recommend it.

Address communications to LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York, 10022

BAT MAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
DID YOU EVER HAVE ONE OF THOSE DAYS WHEN EVERY-THING SEEMED TO GO WRONG ?
GAS
BOB KANE
SURE YOU HAVE--EVERYONE HAS, AND BECAUSE HE'S ONLY HUMAN, YOU'LL BE SURPRISED TO LEARN EVEN BATMAN HIMSELF CAN HAVE ONE OF "THOSE" DAYS!
SO GET SET FOR SOME STARTLING SURPRISES AND STUNNING SETBACKS AS FOUR ORDINARY OBJECTS CAUSE EXTRAORDINARY TOUGH BREAKS FOR THE FAMED CRIME-FIGHTER, WHO RUNS SMACK INTO...
A BAD DAY FOR BATMAN!

A SPECIAL EVENING FOR THE PRESS--A NEWS CONFERENCE WITH BATMAN AT A BRIEFING ROOM IN GOTHAM CITY'S POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
MR. TREMAINE...
AS EDITOR OF BOYS DAY MAGAZINE, BATMAN--I'M CURIOUS TO KNOW WHY ROBIN ISN'T HERE! HE'S USUALLY AT YOUR SIDE--LIKE A SHADOW!
OH, HE WANTED TO BE HERE--I THINK ROBIN HAS A LITTLE HAM IN HIM... BUT HE'S HOME TACKLING HIS ALGEBRA! HE'S GOT A TOUGH EXAM TOMORROW!
ONE MORE THING...DO YOU THINK ROBIN WILL EVER TAKE YOUR PLACE?
I'M NOT READY FOR RETIREMENT YET--BUT WHEN I AM, I THINK ROBIN WILL BE READY TO TAKE OVER! UH--MR. RANDALL...
YOU'RE OFTEN REFERRED TO IN THE PRESS AS THE "WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE"! ANY COMMENTS ON THIS?
IT IS CERTAINLY AN HONOR TO BE SO SINGLED OUT--BECAUSE THERE ARE GREAT DETECTIVES ON POLICE FORCES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD! THE LIST IS TOO LONG TO NAME THEM HERE!
A SPORTS WRITER FROM THE HERALD IS NEXT...
THIS QUESTION IS OUT OF LEFT FIELD, BATMAN, BUT I ASK IT BECAUSE YOU'RE SUCH A GREAT SPORTS FAN! HOW DID YOU FEEL ABOUT JOHNNY CHEVVY, STAR PITCHER FOR THE GOTHAM GOLIATHS, HURLING A PERFECT GAME UP TO THE "LAST" MAN AT BAT...
...WHO HIT A ROUTINE GROUNDER THAT TOOK A BAD BOUNCE OVER THE THIRD BASEMAN'S HEAD FOR A FLUKE HIT--THUS BREAKING UP A PERFECT GAME?
IT WAS ONE OF THOSE THINGS... A TOUGH BREAK! BUT IT'S INTERESTING YOU ASKED, BECAUSE TODAY I MYSELF EXPERIENCED A SERIES OF BAD BREAKS!
2


"IT BEGAN--IN A WAY--AS A FOLLOW-UP TO MY ROUNDING UP A COUNTERFEIT GANG LAST NIGHT! I HAD LEFT MY BATROPE ON A ROOF, WHERE I HAD SWUNG WITH IT DURING THE ACTION! SINCE I DON'T HAVE A LIMITLESS SUPPLY OF THEM, I WENT BACK AFTER IT TODAY..."
"SUDDENLY, I SAW A FIGURE ON THE ROOF BELOW ME, HOLDING A GLITTERING OBJECT--WHICH LATER I LEARNED WAS A JEWEL NECKLACE HE HAD JUST STOLEN, AND WAS NOW HIDING.."
YOU THERE--WHAT'S GOING ON?
B-BATMAN!
"AS I HEADED FOR HIM, HE GOT SET TO HEAVE A BRICK AT ME..."
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU FOUND OUT ABOUT ME--BUT YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME!
I'M CERTAINLY GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT YOU'RE DOING UP HERE WITH THAT NECKLACE!
"ACTUALLY--THIS DAY STARTED WITH A GOOD BREAK, SINCE I WAS ON HAND TO SPOT THE CROOK, BUT AS I RACED TOWARD HIM..."
THAT GLARE! CAN'T SEE--
OWWW!
WHAT HAPPENED? WHAT WAS THE GLARE, BATMAN?
AND WHY THAT MOAN OF YOURS?
"I CAME TO QUICKLY ENOUGH--AND SAW A GIRL SUNBATHING ON ANOTHER ROOF! WHILE APPLYING HER MAKE-UP, SHE ACCIDENTALLY FLASHED HER MIRROR IN MY FACE--AT THE VERY INSTANT THE CROOK HAD THROWN A BRICK AT ME!"
COULDN'T SEE THE BRICK COMING--NOT WITH THE REFLECTION OF THE SUN'S GLARE IN MY EYES! TOUGH BREAK! HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE TO CATCH THAT CHARACTER!


"HE COULD'VE ESCAPED ONLY THROUGH THE ROOFTOP DOOR, WHICH I TRIED TO OPEN, AFTER I NOTICED HE HADN'T HIDDEN THE NECKLACE..."
HE LOCKED IT FROM INSIDE! CAN'T WASTE TIME SMASHING IT OPEN...
"WITH THE BATROPE I HAD RETRIEVED, I SWUNG DOWN TOWARD THE STREET TO CUT HIM OFF..."
HE'S DUCKING INTO THAT APARTMENT HOUSE--TRYING TO LOSE ME!
BOOKS
"INSIDE WAS A LONG HALLWAY, WITH A BACK DOOR AT THE OTHER END--AND THERE WAS MY MAN..."
HERE'S WHERE I TAKE HIM!
"THE ODDS AGAINST WHAT HAPPENED NEXT--AT THAT VERY MOMENT--WOULD BE ASTRONOMICAL--BUT IT DID HAPPEN!"
THE ELECTRICITY SUDDENLY FAILED! THE PLACE IS BLACK ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU THINK YOU'RE BLIND! BETTER SLOW DOWN...
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

MAKE ALL OUT WAR IN YOUR OWN HOME... PLAY ALONE OR AGAINST OTHER PLAYERS... YOU GET ENOUGH NUCLEAR BATTLE EQUIPMENT FOR MAXIMUM EFFORT WARFARE AND MASSIVE COUNTER-ATTACK! NEVER BEFORE SO MUCH ACTUAL-DESIGN WORKING MODEL U.S.A.F.-TYPE FIREPOWER AND MANPOWER!

FREE IF YOU ACT NOW
12 Combat Planes of All Nations! Real models each identified by name! Brilliant Colors! Jets—Fighters—Bombers

Your opponent prepares to launch a sneak atomic attack. He sets the locking trigger and adjusts the automatic elevation control on his ICBMT Launcher. He fires! But you are ready! Your missile base crewmen intercept the warning on their self-contained oxy-radar packs. Your XA-Counter-fighter is launched to intercept... contact... you deliver the nuclear knockout. But wait! You have been attacked by a double-stage warhead and the second one is bearing down. Your crew can only use their hand-gun radi-activators. Can you still win? Are you good enough to survive? Only you can answer... send for Missile Attack today and find out!

YOU GET: 1 Intercontinental Ballistic Launcher (can be stripped down and reassembled for engineer training) • 2 Ultra Range ICBMT Missiles (can be fired together as double stage warheads or singly for attack and repeat attack) • 1 Gravi-Power Interceptor Missile Launcher • 1 Magno-Find Anti-Missile Missile (XA-C) • 5 Base Crewmen (Astro Outfitted for testing your missiles as personnel carriers) • 4 Crew Radi-Activator Guns (2 hand, 2 semi-automatic) • 2 Oxy-radar packs with antennae and cosmic link belts • 2 Perfect Scale Astro Helmets.

SEND COUPON TODAY

STRATHMORE TOYS
DEPT.M-52•P.O. BOX 397 • ROCKVILLE CENTER, N. Y.

PLEASE RUSH me ..... complete MISSILE ATTACK game(s) with 12 Combat Planes for which I am enclosing $1.25 plus 25¢ postage and handling for each game I have ordered. (TOTAL $1.50 for each set.)

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____STATE_____

CANADIAN and FOREIGN ORDERS $1.98 per set. INTERNATIONAL MONEY ORDER.

THE ELECTRICITY SUDDENLY GOING OUT IS NO SURPRISE TO ME! LAST YEAR IT FAILED FOUR TIMES IN MY PLACE, BATMAN!
"WELL, IN THE DARKNESS, I HELD MY HAND TO THE WALL-- FEELING MY WAY ALONG..."
WHERE IS HE? WHAT'S HE UP TO?
"MY ANSWER CAME A MOMENT LATER, WHEN..."
A FLASH OF DAYLIGHT! HE OPENED THE DOOR-- AND IS LEAVING! BUT I CAN SEE AGAIN!
NOW, HE'S SLAMMED THE DOOR SHUT AND IT'S INKY BLACK AGAIN!
"BY THE TIME I INCHED MY WAY TO THE DOOR... AND OUT... MY QUARRY HAD OPENED UP A BIG LEAD ON ME, AS HE RACED DOWN A QUIET SCHOOL STREET..."
SURE HOPE I'VE HAD MY QUOTA OF TOUGH BREAKS FOR THE DAY! IF SO, I'LL NAIL THIS BIRD IN THE STRETCH...
"BUT THEN--ANOTHER INCREDIBLE COINCIDENCE THAT MADE IT SEEM FATE WAS TOYING WITH ME! IT WAS 3 O'CLOCK AND KIDS POURED OUT OF SCHOOL..."
LOOK, FELLOWS, BATMAN!
HI, BATMAN! CAN I HAVE YOUR AUTO-GRAPH?
ME, TOO!
??!!
SURE, KIDS... BUT SOME OTHER TIME--PLEASE! I'M ON A CASE! I'VE GOT TO LEAVE!

"AFTER LOSING MORE VALUABLE TIME, I WAS AGAIN ON THE TRAIL -- WHICH LED TO GOTHAM PARK LAKE, WHERE MOTOR BOATS ARE RENTED.."

WAIT! DON'T RENT A BOAT TO THAT MAN!

"MY WARNING CRY HAD COME A COUPLE OF SECONDS TOO LATE ..."

I DIDN'T REALIZE HE WAS A CROOK, BATMAN! TAKE MY BOAT THERE--IT'S THE FASTEST THING ON THE LAKE!

THANKS!

"AS I GUNNED THE BOAT AND ROARED OFF, I HEARD THE MAN SUDDENLY CALL AFTER ME, EXCITEDLY--BUT THE SOUND OF THE ENGINE DROWNED OUT HIS WORDS..."

PUTT-PUTT-PUTT-PUTT-PUTT!

"THE CROOK WAS HEADING TOWARD THE MARKER BUOY AT THE FAR END, WHICH WARNED THE BOATERS OF THE SHALLOW WATERS BEYOND..."

THE CARETAKER WAS RIGHT--THIS BOAT IS MUCH FASTER! I'M GAINING ON THE CROOK! I'LL HAVE HIM IN A COUPLE OF MINUTES -- UNLESS...

PUTT-PUTT-PUTT!

PUTT-PUTT-PUTT!

PUTT-PUTT-PUTT!

THIS TIME, BATMAN INTERRUPTS HIS OWN STORY...

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS, ON THIS BAD DAY I WAS HAVING, CAN ANY OF YOU GUESS WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME NEXT, OUT THERE ON THE LAKE?

er--YOU HIT A SUNKEN OBJECT--AND WAS WRECKED!

THE CROOK PULLED A GUN, SHOT HOLES IN YOUR BOAT--AND SANK IT!

"NICE TRY--BUT BOTH GUESSES ARE WRONG! INSTEAD, I WAS A VICTIM OF ONE OF THE OLDEST ANNOYANCES KNOWN TO CAR DRIVERS AS WELL AS BOAT PILOTS.."

OUT OF GAS! AND THE CROOK IS GETTING AWAY!

PUTT-PUTT!

PUTT-PUTT!

SPUTTER! SPUTT!

SPUTT!

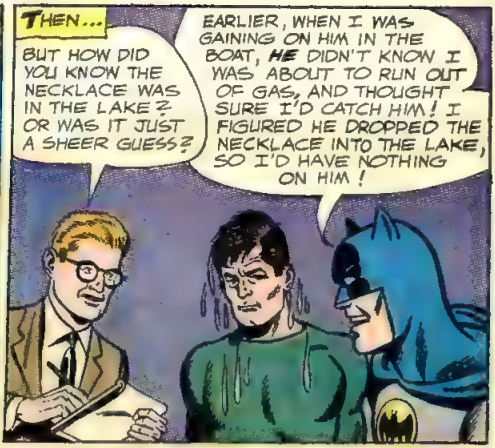
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

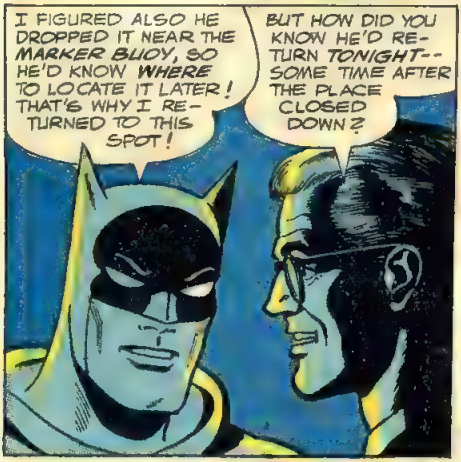
READERS... THE MOST SENSATIONAL BARGAINS IN THRILLING STORIES TODAY IS CRAMMED PAST THE BURSTING POINT IN DC's 80 PAGE GIANTS! EVEN THE MARTIANS ARE TRYING TO GET HOLD OF THE LATEST 80 PAGE GIANT SUPERMAN!
A STAR COLLECTION OF SUPERMAN STORIES FEATURING FANTASTIC THINGS AND CREATURES!
NOW ON SALE!
80 pg. GIANT SUPERMAN
25¢ Issue No.6
Featuring THINGS
DON'T MISS 25 YEARS OF EXCITEMENT ROLLED INTO ONE-- IN ANOTHER STUPENDOUS BARGAIN--IN THE LATEST
80 PAGE GIANT BATMAN! THE SILVER ANNIVERSARY ISSUE
STARRING BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, IN OUR MOST ASTOUNDING ADVENTURES!
80 pg. GIANT BATMAN
SILVER ANNIVERSARY ISSUE
25¢ Issue No.5
Celebrating 25 YEARS of BATMAN and ROBIN
NOW ON SALE!
STILL ANOTHER DC GIANT BARGAIN EXPLODING ON EVERY PAGE IS THE LATEST
80 PAGE GIANT Sgt. ROCK's PRIZE BATTLE TALES!
GRAB IT BEFORE THE ENEMY DOES!
EVER CHARGE A MACHINE GUN NEST WITH NOTHIN' BUT A WILD LOOK IN YOUR EYE? OR TACKLE A DINOSAUR WITH BARE FISTS? THAT'S THE LEAST YOU'LL BE DOIN' AS YOU LIVE 80 THRILLS A MINUTE IN THE LATEST
80 PAGE GIANT Sgt. ROCK's PRIZE BATTLE TALES!
SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS
ON SALE EVERYWHERE DEC. 10th
80 pg. GIANT SGT. ROCK's PRIZE BATTLE TALES
25¢ Issue No.7
THIS IS SGT. ROCK OF EASY CO. BLASTIN' YOUR WAY WITH THE 2ND GIGANTIC EXPLOSION OF SEARIN' BATTLE TALES EVER THE ENEMY TALKS ABOUT!
IRON
"FIGHTING MARINES"
"SUICIDE SQUAD"
THE SAVAGE and the MARINE
THE ROCKET and the KNIGHT

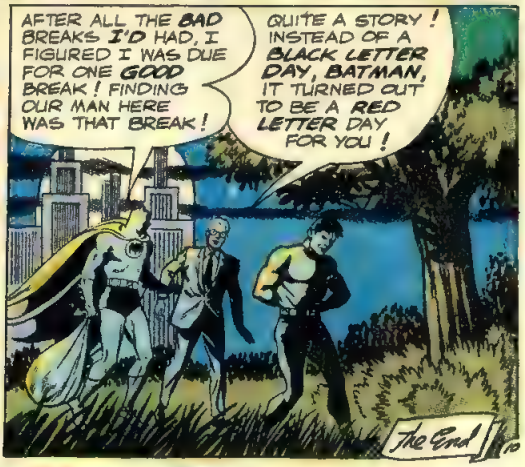
THAT'S WHAT THE CARETAKER WAS TRYING TO HOLLER AT ME! HE SUDDENLY REMEMBERED HIS BOAT WAS LOW ON FUEL... BUT I DIDN'T HEAR HIM! BEATEN BY ANOTHER TOUGH BREAK! THIS IS A DAY I WON'T EASILY FORGET!
"BY THE TIME THE APOLOGETIC CARETAKER CAME OUT TO GET ME, IT WAS TOO LATE TO TAKE UP THE CHASE..."
OKAY, I'LL SECURE THIS LINE AND YOU CAN TOW ME IN! TELL ME, WHAT TIME DO YOU CLOSE HERE?
NINE O'CLOCK--SHARP!
WELL, BATMAN! THIS'LL SURELY GO DOWN IN YOUR BOOK AS A BLACK LETTER DAY!
NOT QUITE, MR. TREMAINE! THE "DAY" ISN'T OVER YET!
AHA...SO THE CASE ISN'T REALLY WRAPPED UP, EH?
YOU WOULDN'T HOLD ANY-THING BACK ON US, WOULD YOU, BATMAN?
PLEASE, GENTLE-MEN...
IT'S TWENTY OF NINE--I MUST GET GOING! SINCE I CAN'T TAKE ALL OF YOU WITH ME, I SUGGEST YOU SELECT ONE MAN, AND HE CAN COVER THE STORY FOR THE GROUP!
BILL FERRIS, OF THE CLARION, IS SELECTED, AND AT 9:05, AS HE AND THE FAMED CRIME-FIGHTER SKULK THROUGH BRUSH NEAR GOTHAM PARK LAKE...
THE BOAT RENTAL IS CLOSED DOWN! WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO FIND HERE, BATMAN?
SHHHH! I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMEONE MOVING UP AHEAD...

THERE'S OUR MAN -- THE NECKLACE THIEF !
WHY DON'T YOU NAB HIM -- NOW ?
WOULDN'T DO ME ANY GOOD... HE HASN'T GOT THE EVIDENCE ON HIM ! WE'LL WAIT !
I SURE WISH I KNEW WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT !
KEEP AN EYE ON HIS AIR BUBBLES ! SEE ? THEY SHOW THAT HE'S APPROACHING THE MARKER BUOY !
BUT WHAT IS HE UP TO ?
YOU'LL KNOW SHORTLY ! WE'LL STAY HIDDEN HERE TILL HE COMES OUT OF THE WATER !
A MINUTE PASSES... A HALF-HOUR... 50 MINUTES -- UNTIL...
THEN...
I'LL HANDLE THIS, FERRIS ! STAY BACK !
BATMAN ! NOT AGAIN ?!

AS BATMAN CHARGES FORWARD...
YOU WON'T STOP ME NOW, BATMAN!
I'LL FLATTEN YOU--FOR GOOD THIS TIME!
THUMP!
IN A DESPERATE TWISTING MANEUVER, THE CROOK ELUDES THE CRIME-FIGHTER, AND...
I'LL MAKE IT TO THE WATER-- BATMAN WON'T HAVE A CHANCE, ONCE I'M IN!
A FISH STORY WITH A TWIST... THE BIG ONE THAT DIDN'T GET AWAY!


THEN...
BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW THE NECKLACE WAS IN THE LAKE?--OR WAS IT JUST A SHEER GUESS?
EARLIER, WHEN I WAS GAINING ON HIM IN THE BOAT, HE DIDN'T KNOW I WAS ABOUT TO RUN OUT OF GAS, AND THOUGHT SURE I'D CATCH HIM! I FIGURED HE DROPPED THE NECKLACE INTO THE LAKE, SO I'D HAVE NOTHING ON HIM!


I FIGURED ALSO HE DROPPED IT NEAR THE MARKER BUOY, SO HE'D KNOW WHERE TO LOCATE IT LATER! THAT'S WHY I RETURNED TO THIS SPOT!
BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW HE'D RETURN TONIGHT--SOME TIME AFTER THE PLACE CLOSED DOWN?


AFTER ALL THE BAD BREAKS I'D HAD, I FIGURED I WAS DUE FOR ONE GOOD BREAK! FINDING OUR MAN HERE WAS THAT BREAK!
QUITE A STORY! INSTEAD OF A BLACK LETTER DAY, BATMAN, IT TURNED OUT TO BE A RED LETTER DAY FOR YOU!
The End

For The VERY BEST

SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS

in COMICS READING

FINGERPRINT FACTS

THE U.S. **FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION** IS ASKED TO IDENTIFY AN AVERAGE OF 23,506 FINGERPRINTS A DAY...

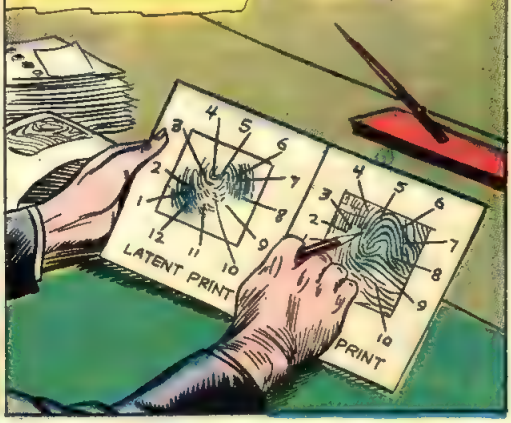
THE PRINTS OF A SUSPECT ARE QUICKLY CHECKED AGAINST THOSE ON FILE IN THE **F.B.I.**.

MORE THAN 2500 YEARS AGO, CHINA RECOGNIZED THE VALIDITY OF USING FINGERPRINTS AS SEALS ON LEGAL DOCUMENTS...

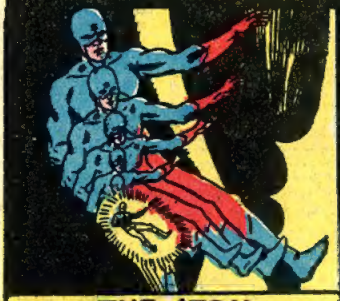
EDWARD HENRY, INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE BENGAL POLICE, IS CREDITED WITH THE FIRST TO USE FINGERPRINTS TO SOLVE A MYSTERY--THAT OF THE MURDER, IN 1898, OF THE MANAGER OF A TEA GARDEN IN BENGAL, INDIA...

THE MANAGER'S SERVANT LIED WHEN HE SAID HE WASN'T IN THE ROOM! I'VE FOUND HIS THUMBPRINT IN BLOOD ON THAT BOOK BESIDE THE MURDERED MAN'S BED!

BY COUNTING THE NUMBER OF FINGERPRINT LINES WITHIN A DISTANCE OF 5 MILLIMETERS (ABOUT ⅕ OF AN INCH), IT IS POSSIBLE TO DETERMINE THE OWNER'S AGE. 15 TO 18 LINES ARE THOSE OF A NEWBORN BABY; 13 LINES MEAN IT'S A CHILD 8 TO 10 YEARS OLD; 12 LINES SHOW ITS OWNER IS 12 TO 14 YEARS; 9 TO 10 LINES BELONG TO THOSE OVER 14 YEARS; 6 TO 7 LINES INDICATE AN ADULT WITH VERY BIG HANDS...

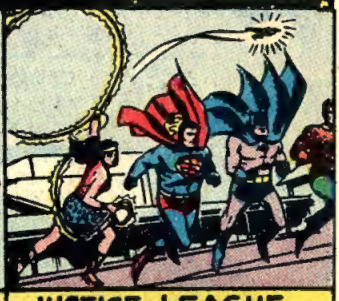


Make it a Happy Holiday--With The Best in Comics!

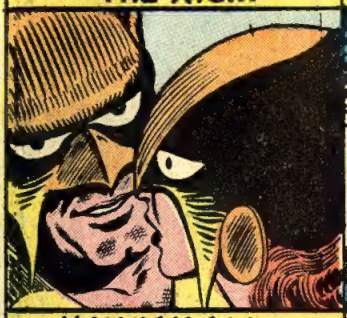


THE ATOM

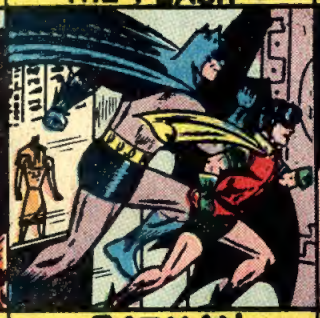
THE FLASH



JUSTICE LEAGUE



HAWKMAN



BATMAN

DETECTIVE

You save 20c on 10 issues
. . . 40c on 20 issues

Use coupon to subscribe . . .
Get regular delivery to your home . . .
Never miss an issue . . .
SAVE MONEY TOO!

SPECIAL $1 HOLIDAY OFFER

National Comics, Dept. H, 575 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022

Please enter my own subscription to the magazines checked below:

☐ THE ATOM	☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE	☐ BATMAN
☐ 10 issues $1	☐ 10 issues $1	☐ 10 issues $1
☐ 20 issues $2	☐ 20 issues $2	☐ 20 issues $2
☐ THE FLASH	☐ HAWKMAN	☐ DETECTIVE
☐ 10 issues $1	☐ 10 issues $1	☐ 10 issues $1
☐ 20 issues $2	☐ 20 issues $2	☐ 20 issues $2

(Offer good in U.S. and Canada only. For Canadian postage, add 13c on each 10 issue subscription; 25c on each 20 issue subscription.)

NAME_____
(Please print clearly)

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____ ZONE OR ZIP #_____

ENTER GIFTS HERE

_____
(Fill in title of magazine)
☐ 10 issues $1
☐ 20 issues $2

Gift for_____
Address_____
City_____ State_____ Zone or Zip #_____

_____
(Fill in title of magazine)
☐ 10 issues $1
☐ 20 issues $2

Gift for_____
Address_____
City_____ State_____ Zone or Zip #_____

I enclose $_____ (No stamps or coins, please.)

BOYS! MEN!

MY SECRET NEW DYNAFLEX METHOD

CAN BUILD YOU A MAGNIFICENT NEW HE-MAN-MUSCLED BODY IN JUST TEN MINUTES A DAY—with absolutely NO weights—NO bar-bells —NO EXERCISE AT ALL!

Mike Marvel

Yes! If they LAUGH at you now when you take off your shirt—they'll be amazed —once they've seen the rugged DYNAFLEX BODY I can give you! I'll build you a tough massive body—shoulders clad with solid inches of he-man BRAWN. I'll give you bulging biceps, trip-hammer fists, power-packed legs, and a chest that will have you popping the buttons off your shirt with pride! (—says MIKE MARVEL, "Builder of Champion Bodies")

In my classes this same course of Instruction would cost $110.00.

ARE YOU WEAK, ALWAYS TIRED, LACK PEP?

Whether you're thin and scrawny, or sagging with unsightly fat — my secret DYNAFLEX method will cram pep, vigor and red-blooded vitality into your puny, exhausted body. Once DYNAFLEX makes you a two-fisted dynamo of manly beauty, rippling with power, glowing with magnetic appeal—you'll be bursting with get-up-and-go. Man, you'll be really ALIVE—tingling with zest and rip-roaring energy—for the first time in years!

PROOF!

"I tried two other systems, before my buddy told me about DYNAFLEX. It really works —and how! I've put two inches of solid muscle on my biceps, three inches on my chest. It's like magic!" L. C., New York City

"I never thought you could build terrific muscles without exercises or weights. Started DYNAFLEX two weeks ago, and am building a great physique." E. G., Detroit, Mich.

"DYNAFLEX is the best yet. Only three weeks, and I have more dates than I can handle! I am telling all my pals about DYNAFLEX." F. S., Chicago, Ill.

ARE YOU ASHAMED OF YOUR BODY NOW?

Pal—do YOURSELF a favor! Take a good long look in a mirror. Do you see a puny, starved body—scrawny arms—bony shoulders—a flabby stomach and skinny legs? Do they laugh and grin when you take off your shirt?

BELIEVE IT OR NOT—I can add solid pounds of rippling, steely he-man MEAT to your build. I can take those skeleton arms and PACK EVERY INCH with explosive virile MAN-MUSCLE. I can take that caved-in chest and build on six rugged inches of strong sleek MAN-SIZED BRAWN. I can clothe your skinny frame with GIANT RIPPLING DYNAFLEX MUSCLES that will have them gasping with awe and admiration! And with NO tiring exercise, NO high-priced bar-bells or gym equipment!

Or is your problem a body sagging with soft rolls of unhealthy, handsome FAT? Puny muscles—sagging stomach—bloated face—arms heavy with layers of BLUBBER? Are you ASHAMED to go to the beach and let them see your "FAT-MAN PHYSIQUE"?

If so, wake up fella! THIS IS IT! I will peel off that fat and give you a lean virile DYNAFLEX BODY, armored with a sheath of hard tough hand-some muscle. I can build you into a healthy, streamlined HERCULES—bursting with dynamic manly strength. I'll give you a taut rock-hard midsection—legs muscled like coil steel springs. I can pack solid DYNAMITE into your fists and give you a rugged hand-some build brim-full of the magnetic SUPER-BODY APPEAL. And with NO starvation diets — NO fatiguing calisthenics — NO expensive health-foods!

HOW DYNAFLEX BUILDS BEAUTIFUL BODIES

DYNAFLEX is the modern miracle of body-building. It takes no tiresome exercises, "crash" diets, protein foods, and no weights or bar-bells. DYNAFLEX is the amazing discovery of a West German Doctor whose research into the Science of Strength found a thrilling new way to build GIANT BRAWNY MUSCLES in ten minutes a day. With DYNAFLEX you "flex" each muscle once—in a certain way—that is more effective than if you exercised that muscle 20, 30, even 100 times the old-fashioned way. With DYNAFLEX you get bigger results in ten minutes than after hours of grunting and groaning, heaving heavy weights.

DYNAFLEX coaxes each muscle in your body to bring out its round, rugged fullness and satiny symmetery. DYNAFLEX packs that muscle with glowing vibrant new strength and energy—FAST. In ten minutes a day I can cover your bony frame with healthy rippling muscle—give you a deep, powerful chest—solid shoulders and iron wrists—tough, slim midsection—and trim, steel-spring legs—simply thru "DYNAFLEXING" each muscle once a day! There's nothing wrong with the bar-bell and weight-lifting method . . .but why bother? Why waste time and money, why sweat and strain your way to a streamlined symmetrical SAMSON-STRONG BODY—when you can do it better—bigger—faster—easier with the DYNA-FLEX SECRET?

STRONG-MAN BODY THAT'S ADMIRED!

Be honest. Down deep you KNOW you envy the boy with the virile, magnificent build. Every man and boy secretly desires a broad brawny back, a solid man-muscled chest, handsome he-man shoulders, arms rippling with tough, steely sinews, a narrow waist, slim hips and springy, power-packed legs. Be a fellow with TWO-FISTED BIG MUSCLE APPEAL . . . they only laugh at skinny guys or "fatso's"!

Let me give you a glowing new body, brimming over with energy and irresistible inches of solid muscle on your chest—he-man appeal. I can build three inches of beef and brawn on your shoulders. I will mold you a handsome super-body of terrific strength, give you a crushing grip, legs crammed with steel springs. A lean taut rock-solid punch-proof midsection. Pack your body with energy and stamina that will help make you popular.

GIVE ME TEN MINUTES A DAY —THAT'S ALL!

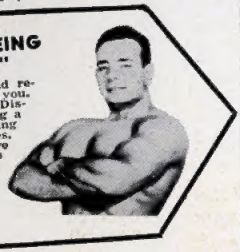
After DYNAFLEX, you'll be able to roll up your sleeves and take off your shirt and, for the first time in your life, you'll be PROUD of your manly build. Yes, pal, say goodbye to your weak, flabby frame—get ready for adventure and romance with a solid physique that glows and vibrates with virile he-man appeal. You'll be really proud to have people see your MAGNIFICENT HE-MAN MUSCLES at the beach or gym. And, when the fellows stare with envy and jealousy—when friends crowd around to squeeze your iron biceps or touch your bulging brawny chest—when they ask in amazement HOW you did it—tell them about the Magic Secret of DYNAFLEX!

Your Pal,
MIKE MARVEL
"Builder of Champion Bodies"

YOU PAY ONLY $1.98
COMPLETE
Nothing Else To Buy

Mike Marvel System, Dept. M489, 285 Market Street, Newark, N. J.

FREE! "SECRETS OF BEING ATTRACTIVE!"



Fellows! Mail the coupon now, and receive Mike Marvel's FREE GIFT to you. this exciting and informative book. Discover a secret method for developing a new, almost MAGNETIC way of being attractive and popular! At parties, dances, at the beach—you will have the people clustering around you breathlessly, while the guys watch enviously. "What does HE have that WE don't?" they will say. The answer is in this exciting new book, your GIFT from Mike Marvel. Fill out and mail the coupon NOW!

MAIL MONEY-SAVING NO-RISK FREE TRIAL COUPON NOW!

Check as many of the boxes you want HERE—Complete System $1.98.

- ☐ Lose fat, be trim and solid
- ☐ Build deep brawny chest, bulging with vigorous strength
- ☐ Lose fat, be trim, strong handsome
- ☐ Mold mighty back, broad beefy shoulders
- ☐ Build muscle on skinny wrists and arms
- ☐ Develop crushing grip, two-fisted punch-power

MIKE MARVEL SYSTEM, Dept. M489
285 Market Street
Newark, New Jersey.

Okay, Mike! Here's $1.98. Send me your COMPLETE (nothing else to buy later) body-building course. I want to use your new secret of DYNAFLEX to win a HERCULES HE-MAN BODY in just ten minutes a day. Rush my copies of the DYNAFLEX SYSTEM and my free gift book "Secrets of Being Attractive" on your money-back guarantee, in plain wrappers. If I don't develop a splendid physique and become more popular you will refund my money in full.

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____
(Please Print)

Outside USA: Send International Money Order or cash. Great Britain: $1.98 is about 15 shillings. For air mail delivery, send 1 pound.

MAKE A FRIEND!

BUILD "BIG FRANKIE"

THE FRIENDLIEST MONSTER IN TOWN!

All-plastic assembly kit almost 2-feet high, movable arms, chain and rock.

$4.98 wherever toys or hobby products are sold.

AURORA PLASTICS CORP. □ WEST HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK

Aurora products are manufactured in the U.S.A., Canada, and Europe and are sold throughout the world.

FLATTERMANN